



# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

**TODD P. GRAVES**

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Contact Don Ledford, Public Affairs • (816) 426-4220 • 400 East Ninth Street, Room 5510 • Kansas City, MO 64106

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **INDEPENDENCE WOMAN INDICTED FOR SOCIAL SECURITY FRAUD**

**KANSAS CITY, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that an Independence, Mo., woman was indicted by a federal grand jury today for receiving Social Security benefits to which she was not entitled.

**Peggy Collie**, 48, of Independence, was charged in a two-count indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Kansas City.

Count One of the federal indictment alleges that **Collie** failed to disclose her re-marriage on April 8, 1996, which would have affected her eligibility for Social Security survivor benefits. According to the indictment, **Collie** received \$41,666 in benefits to which was not entitled from April 1996 through May 2004.

Count Two of the federal indictment alleges that **Collie** converted to her own use monies of the Social Security Administration, that is, by keeping \$41,666 in survivor benefit payments made to her by the Social Security Administration after the occurrence of an event (her re-marriage on April 6, 1996) affecting her right to continued payment of the survivor benefit.

Graves cautioned that the charges contained in the indictment are simply accusations, and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charges must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Nathan F. Garrett. It was investigated by Social Security Administration, Office of Inspector General.

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This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

[www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow/index.html](http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow/index.html)